

**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SEED INSPECTION REPORT
JULY 1, 2005 - JUNE 30, 2006**

Approximately 1,600 lots of seed belonging to seedsmen, seed producers and seed dealers were inspected during the 2006 inspection season. The inspections included examinations of documents, labels and seed. Two hundred and seventy of the lots were sampled. The samples selected represented over thirty different agricultural and vegetable crop kinds. There were eleven samples that did not pass the laboratory analysis. This resulted in five warning letters being issued along with six stop-sale orders. In addition, eighteen warehouse violations were issued.

The violation rate for analyzed samples during 2006 was 4%, which is up from our violation rate of 3% in fiscal year 2005. The most common violation was purity out of tolerance, followed by germination out of tolerance and inert matter out of tolerance. Additional violations include fifty-eight warning letters in response to seed permit and/or permit violations resulting from monitoring of seed advertisements.

In fiscal year 2005 there were 197 seedsmen, 138 seed producer and 1,032 seed dealer permits. The total number of valid seed permits in 2006 was 185 seedsmen, 141 seed producers and 981 dealer permits. South Dakota seed permits are biennial, with license fees as follows: seed producers and seed dealers, \$50; seedsmen, \$250.

The Department of Public Safety once again did the routine seed inspections for retail stores and garden centers. They checked for proper labeling and current test dates. Their inspectors issue notices of violation on lawn seed, vegetable seed, and wildflower seed. They also issue stop sale orders for seed with expired test dates.

The Department of Agriculture conducted 6 investigations to determine compliance with the seed laws. 3 warnings were issued for selling seed with a permit, 2 warnings for distributing seed that was not in compliance with the labeling requirements, 1 warning for an advertising violation and 1 warning for distributing seed in violation of the Plant Variety Protection Act.

Seven samples of grain sorghum were forwarded to the Federal seed branch for the 2006 trueness-to-variety grow-out test.

2006 Sample Summary

Kinds of seed that did not pass analysis

Triticale - 1	Spring wheat - 3
Field peas - 2	Wheat grass - 1
Sudan Grass - 1	Alfalfa - 1
Rye- 1	
Needle grass - 1	

Reasons for seed not passing lab analysis

1. Pure seed out of tolerance - 4 samples
2. Inert material out of tolerance - 3 samples
3. Germination out of tolerance - 8 samples
4. Other crop seed out of tolerance - 1 sample

Reasons for stop sales

1. Germination out of tolerance - 6 samples
2. Pure seed out of tolerance - 1 sample
3. Inert material out of tolerance – 1 sample